Programme Specification

BA (Hons) Photography

Awarding Institution:	The University of Bolton
Teaching Institution:	The University of Bolton
Division and/or Faculty/Institute:	Arts and Media Technologies

Professional accreditation	Professional body	Professional body URL	Status of graduates

Final award(s):	BA (Hons)
Interim award(s)	N/A
Exit or Fallback award(s)	Certificate of Higher Education in Photography Diploma of Higher Education in Photography
Programme title(s)	Photography
UCAS Code	W640
JACS Code	W640
University Course Code(s)	Full-time ART0005 Part-time ART5004
QAA Benchmark Statement(s)	Art and Design
Other internal and external reference points	QAA Academic Infrastructure, including the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications and the Code of Practice UK Quality Code for Higher Education University of Bolton awards framework
Language of study	English
Mode of study and normal period of study	Full-time 3 years Part-time 4.5 years

Admissions criteria

You should have at least two A2 levels or equivalent in any subject plus five GCSEs at grade C or above (or equivalent) including English and mathematics.

Non-Standard Entry:
The University may admit applicants who do not have a Level 3 qualification but who hold alternative qualifications and/or experience demonstrating appropriate knowledge and skills at Level 3 standard.

Overseas candidates from a country where the language of instruction is not English must have English Language proficiency of IELTS 6.0 or equivalent in addition to the entry criteria stated above.

Additional admissions matters
A basic working knowledge of photography through either creative application, digital or traditional process (or combinations of the three) is expected and assessed at interview. Presentation of applicants' work is usually in the form of portfolios of recent photographic or image-related (or time-based) work. The quality of the portfolio/interview is the primary basis on which applicants are selected, therefore, special consideration will be given to applicants without the above qualifications who have a strong portfolio.

Fitness to practise declaration
Not applicable

Aims of the programme
The principal aims of the programme are to:

1. enable you to acquire knowledge and understanding, develop personal attributes, and master essential technical and transferable skills so that you are able you work in commercial and fine art photography or other related areas;

2. develop academic and research skills, prepare you for study at Master's level and expand your experiences and outlook in relation to the world of art and creativity;

3. establish an individual work-related plan for you based on your individual need and market opportunity within the specialism;

4. establish key values in your skill set including the areas of entrepreneurialism, internationalisation, sustainability and social, public and ethical responsibility.

Distinctive features of the programme
The learning outcomes for specific modules are shown in the module specifications. The aims and learning outcomes are appropriate for Undergraduate level awards and have parity in respect of other related programmes of Art and Design approved through the University's validation process. The outcomes relate to students acquiring, applying and evaluating knowledge and skills. Photography at the University of Bolton is a pathway of visual self-discovery. Through key developments in knowledge, research, professional tutelage and self-development, you will be offered choice and diversity in a supportive, market-aware environment. The programme provides a broad range of learning and teaching opportunities in photographic practice including conceptual, technical and commercial areas. The culmination of the programme is the final exhibition, which offers the opportunity for you to create and exhibit individually researched, rather than generically generated, pieces of work. The work is based on individually researched concepts and theories. The programme aims to develop knowledge and understanding of contemporary photographic practice including digital media, as well as the more traditional photographic processes through theoretical discussion and debate, which underpins all of the learning. It will facilitate creative and innovative practice in the creation of a visual language through the medium of photography enabling you to develop your own direction in the professional practice of visual representation. You will learn how to successfully synthesise research, develop ideas and produce innovative work for a range of research-led and industry-ready outputs. Strong links to the University's MA Photography allow fluid transfer for students ready for further in-depth research opportunities. Professional employer engagement is a key feature of the programme and includes visits to professionals both regionally and nationally* as well as visits from leading specialists in the subject area. Many students engage in work-related activities alongside their studies with exhibition and display being a key theme in the third year. Opportunities to visit major centres such as New York, Paris, London and Toronto are offered to students and these focus on engagement with current exhibitions, practitioners and themes related to photography and associated subjects*. You will be encouraged and invited to visit exhibitions and collections as a matter of course whilst on the programme either though regular study visits as individuals investigating research into practice. Technical and academic staff are engaged in the practice of photography (as practitioners) and are, therefore, able to engage with you on an up-to-date, informed level. The variety of styles undertaken by staff offer a very wide range of opportunities to you when it comes to your individual development. Staff regularly engage in international exhibitions and are active in both published as well as conference-based activities.

The programme has a range of specialist critical studies theorists and practitioners whose expertise is in photographic contextual and theoretical fields. This underpins practice and you will gain philosophical and intellectual rigour that will help you to acquire a deep knowledge and understanding of the contextual issues of the practice, and to move to careers where higher research and study skills are required.

Facilities offered to you include digital and traditional processes with extensive digital and silver darkrooms. You will be grounded in both sets of processes and engage in photographic projects that investigate and establish research-based, professionally required skills and abilities. Emphasis on a personal direction is encouraged in the second half of the programme with studio lighting, location techniques and underpinning research and development as key drivers established for you in your journey of discovery as new, up and coming photographers.

*Please note trips and study visits are optional, vary from year to year, and are charged to the student.

Programme learning outcomes

K. Knowledge and understanding
On completion of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate systematic knowledge and understanding of:

1. historical perspectives and conceptualisation and their impact on photography;
2. the influence of business, environmental, legislative, ethical and social constraints upon the individual student's current and future practice;
3. the impact of technological developments upon photography's capabilities and methodology;
4. the application of the photographic process to develop ideas and test concepts;
5. the identification and application of a variety of individually selected photography and video-based tools.

C. Cognitive, intellectual or thinking skills
On completion of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

1. apply creativity, imagination and flair in the use of photography and video;
2. challenge subject orthodoxy and deploy innovative approaches within their work;
3. identify problems and visualize solutions through the application of design approaches;
4. exercise critical judgment when reflecting upon their own work and that of others.

P. Practical, professional or subject-specific skills

On completion of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

1. work safely, cleanly and confidently using the photo/video resources and facilities (e.g., studio, darkrooms and in the post-production facilities);
2. explore materials, techniques and technology in order to develop into professional practitioners within the medium;
3. apply a range of photographic skills in the field, studio and in post-production;
4. employ a high level of photo/video practical knowledge, skill and creativity in the body of work produced;
5. use a high level of professional skills transferable into vocational research and employer environments;
6. display and exhibit work to a professional standard;
7. prepare portfolio work focused towards an individual vocational pathway.

T. Transferable, key or personal skills

On completion of the programme successful students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

1. work independently in the planning, management, and production of work and reflection in relation to complex projects;
2. use interpersonal skills effectively, particularly those related to effective interaction and collaboration with others;
3. communicate ideas orally, visually and in written form to others in a clear, effective and skilled manner;
4. use research skills linked to source identification, the development of appropriate investigative procedures, information retrieval and manipulation, and analysis of the resulting outcomes;
5. identify personal strengths, weaknesses and related self-development needs.
6. be flexible and adaptable, use initiative, be self-aware and confident.

Programme structure

The B.A. (Hons) Degree in Photography programme is 3 years full-time and up to 4.5 years part-time. Students take 17 core modules as outlined in the table below. Overall, the number and level of credits for this qualification are 120 credits at Level HE4, 120 credits at HE5 and 120 credits at HE6 – making 360 credits.

Module Code	Module title	Core/Option /Elective (C/O/E)	Credits	Length (1, 2 or 3 periods)
Level 4				
AAD4000	Scholarship	C	20	1
AAD4005	Production Skills	C	20	1
PTO4020	Photographic Techniques (Digital)	C	20	1
AAD4002	Visual Literacy	C	20	1
AAD4004	Applied Creativity	C	20	1
PTO4021	Photographic Techniques (Wet)	C	20	1
Level 5				
AAD5000	Employability and Enterprise	C	20	1
PTO5021	Location: Techniques into Practice	C	20	1
PTO5020	Studio: Techniques into Practice	C	20	1
AAD5001	Past, Present and Futures: Theory in Context	C	20	1
PTO5022	Applied Techniques into Practice	C	20	1
PTO5023	Photographic Theory into Practice	C	20	1
Level 6				
AAD6000	Research	C	20	1
PTO6000	Advanced Photography Practice: Research, Presentation and Exhibition	C	20	1
PTO6001	Advanced Photography Practice: Portfolio for Exhibition	C	20	1
AAD6002	Professional Practice and Self-Promotion	C	20	1
AAD6001	Major Project	C	40	1

Learning and teaching strategies

Learning and teaching methods apply a blended style which means you will attend sessions face-to-face as well as participating in online learning. Teaching and learning methods include lectures, seminars, tutorials and critiques, self-directed learning, e-learning and laboratory/workshop sessions. Practical skills are acquired through technical introduction and support, workshop sessions, demonstrations and activity-based assignments. Active learning is promoted with strong project themes.

Learning activities (KIS entry)

	Course Year		
	HE4	HE5	HE6
Scheduled learning and teaching activities	46	47	40
Guided independent study	54	53	60
Placement/study abroad	0	0	0

Assessment strategy

There are no formal examinations and continuous assessment is used. Assessment is carried out at key points during the modules.

You will have formative assessment to help you learn and develop your knowledge and skills and summative assessment on which you are graded. Formative assessment (face-to-face and online) is offered during each module and written feedback is provided following summative assessment.

Assessment tasks are linked to the learning outcomes of each module and are normally completed by the end of each module. Types of assessment evidence can include: assignments, projects, case study, quizzes, interviews and presentations.

Assessment methods (KIS entry)

	Course Year		
	1	2	3
Written exams	0	0	
Coursework	100	100	100
Practical exams	0	0	0

Assessment regulations
- Assessment Regulations for Undergraduate Modular Programmes

Grade bands and classifications

Grade Description	Mark %	Honours Degree Classification
Work of exceptional quality	70+	i
Work of very good quality	60-69	ii.i
Work of good quality	50-59	ii.ii
Work of satisfactory quality	40-49	iii
Borderline fail	35-39	
Fail	Below 35	

Honours classification

You will normally be awarded the honours classification resulting from the application of either Rule ACM20 or Rule ACM6.

Rule ACM20

A weighted average of the marks from modules worth a total of 200 credits at Levels HE5 and HE6 combined, including the marks from modules worth no more than 80 credits at least at Level HE5 (weighted 30 percent) and marks from modules worth at least 120 credits at Level HE6 (weighted 70 percent), which represent the best marks achieved by you at those Levels.

Where the average falls unequivocally into one of the following bands: 48.00 - 49.99, 58.00 - 59.99, 68.00 - 69.99; and you have achieved marks clearly in an honours classification category higher than their average for modules worth at least 110 credits, then you will be awarded an honours degree in the classification category one higher than that indicated by your average.

Rule ACM6 (an alternative if you do not have sufficient marks at Levels HE5 and 6 to apply ACM20)

A simple average of the equally weighted marks from modules worth 120 credits at Level HE6 which represent the best marks achieved by you at that Level.

Where the average falls unequivocally into one of the following bands: 48.00 – 49.99, 58.00 – 59.99, 68.00 – 69.99; and you have achieved marks clearly in an honours classification category higher than their average for modules worth at least 70 credits, then you will be awarded an honours degree in the classification category one higher than that indicated by their average.

Where you have marks available for fewer than 120 credits at Level HE6, honours classification shall normally be based **solely** on a simple average of the available marks for modules at Level HE6, subject to there being marks for a **minimum of 60 credits awarded by the University**. **Upgrading of the honours classification will not normally be available where there are marks available for fewer than 120 credits at Level HE6**, unless this is explicitly approved.

Role of external examiners

External examiners are appointed for all programmes of study. They oversee the assessment process and their duties include: approving assessment tasks, reviewing assessment marks, attending assessment boards and reporting to the University on the assessment process.

Support for student learning

Support for student learning includes the following.

- The programme is managed by a programme leader;
- Induction programme introduces students to the University and their programme;
- Each student has a personal tutor, responsible for support and guidance;
- Personal Development Planning (PDP) integrated into all programmes;
- Feedback on formative and summative assessments;
- A Student Centre providing a one-stop shop for information and advice;
- University support services include housing, counselling, financial advice, careers and a disability;
- Specialist photographic equipment and studios;
- Photographic staff will support students with their modules – this includes support with theoretical, practical and professional elements;
- Technical staff will support technical development in all photographic areas through inductions, module support or individually arrange support.
- A Chaplaincy;
- Library and IT services;
- Student Liaison Officers attached to each Faculty;
- The Students' Union advice services;
- Faculty and Programme Handbooks which provide information about the programme and University regulations;
- The opportunity to develop skills for employment;
- English language support for International students;
- Support for work-related opportunities and placements;
- Support for employability and preparation for employment;
- Online support via the virtual learning environment (VLE) used by the University;
- The university careers service and web pages at

Methods for evaluating and enhancing the quality of learning opportunities

We strive to enhance the quality of the programme and the following are among the methods we use to do this.

- Programme committees with student representation;
- Module evaluations by students;
- Students surveys, e.g. National Student Survey (NSS);
- Annual quality monitoring and action planning through Programme Quality Enhancement Plans (PQEPs), Data Analysis Report (DARs) Subject Annual Self Evaluation Report (SASERs), Faculty Quality Enhancement Plans (FQEPs), University Quality Enhancement Plan (UQEP);
- Peer review/observation of teaching;
- Professional development programme for staff;
- External examiner reports;
- Opportunities for photography-based study visits to national and international venues and events (please note that additional costs are attached to this);
- Student-led exhibitions both internal and external;
- Photographic employer visits both to them and them to us with opportunities for professional feedback on work;
- Students are encouraged to engage with professional, industry opportunities alongside their studies.

Other sources of information

Student portal http://www.bolton.ac.uk/Students/Home.aspx

Students Union http://www.ubsu.org.uk/

Faculty Handbook http://www.bolton.ac.uk/students/

Programme Handbook

Student Entitlement Statement

Module database: http://modules.bolton.ac.uk

Moodle

External examiners reports
http://www.bolton.ac.uk/Quality/QAEContents/ExternalExaminersReports/Home.aspx

The university careers service and web pages at
http://www.bolton.ac.uk/Careers/Home.aspx

Document control	
Author(s)	Ian Glover
Approved by:	Sarah Riches Chair, University Validation Panel
Date approved:	25 June 2012
Effective from:	2012/13
Document History:	

Learning Outcomes Map

Module title	Mod Code	Status C/O/E	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6
Scholarship	AAD4000	C	DTA		DTA						DTA								DT	D	DTA	DTA	D	
Production Skills	AAD4005	C					DTA					DTA				DT	D							
Photographic Techniques (Digital)	PTO4020	C	DT	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DT	D		DTA	DT	DT	DT	D	DTA
Visual Literacy	AAD4002	C	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA				DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	
Applied Creativity	AAD4004	C	DTA	DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA		D		DTA	DTA	DTA	DPTA		
Photographic Techniques (Wet)	PTO4021	C	DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D			DTA	DT	DT	DT	D	D
Employability and Enterprise	AAD5000	C	DTA	DTA							DTA					DTA			DTA	DTA	DTA		DTA	DTA
Studio: Techniques into Practice	PTO5020	C	DT	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D	DT	DTA		DT		DTA	DT
Location: Techniques into Practice	PTO5021	C	DT	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D	D	DT	DTA	DTA			DT	D
Past Present and Futures: Theory in Context	AAD5001	C	DTA		DTA				DTA		DTA								DTA		DT	DTA		
Applied Techniques into Practice	PTO5022	C	DT	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D	D	DT		DTA	DT	DPTA	DT	DTA
Photography Theory into Practice	PTO5023	C	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA				DTA		DTA	DPTA	DT	
Research	AAD6000	C	DTA		DTA				DTA		DTA					D			DTA		DTA	DTA		
Advanced Photography Practice: Research, Presentation and Exhibition	PTO6000		DT	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA		DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA		DTA	DT	DTA
Advanced Photography Practice: Portfolio for Exhibition	PTO6001	C	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D	DTA
Professional Practice and Self-Promotion	AAD6002	C	DTA	DTA			DTA								DTA	DTA		DTA	DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA	DT
Major Project	AAD6001	C	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA		DA	DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D	DTA

K. Knowledge and understanding   P. Practical, professional and subject specific skills   C. Cognitive, Intellectual and thinking skills   T. Transferable, key or personal skills
Developed = D, Taught = T, Assessed = A

Programme specification: BA (Hons) Photography
Date: 5 June 2012

Module Listing

Module title	Mod Code	New? ✓	Level	Credits	Type	Core/Option/Elective C/O/E	Pre-requisite module	Assessment 1			Assessment 2		
								Assessment type	Assessment %	Add Y if final item	Assessment type	Assessment %	Add Y if final item
Scholarship	AAD4000	New	4	20	STAN	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Production Skills	AAD4005	New	4	20	PRAC	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Photographic Techniques (Digital)	PTO4020	New	4	20	PRAC	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Visual Literacy	AAD4002	New	4	20	STAN	C	None	CW	70		CW	30	Y
Applied Creativity	AAD4004	New	4	20	PROJ	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Photographic Techniques (Wet)	PTO4021	New	4	20	PRAC	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Employability and Enterprise	AAD5000	New	5	20	STAN	C		PRAC	50		CW	50	Y
Studio: Techniques into Practice	PTO5020	New	5	20	PRAC	C	None	CW	70		CW	30	Y
Location: Techniques into Practice	PTO5021	New	5	20	PRAC	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Past Present and Futures: Theory in Context	AAD5001	New	5	20	STAN	C	None	CW	80		CW	20	Y
Applied Techniques into Practice	PTO5022	New	5	20	PRAC	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Photography Theory into Practice	PTO5023	New	5	20	STAN	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Research	AAD6000	New	6	20	STAN	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Advanced Photography Practice: Research, Presentation and Exhibition	PTO6000	New	6	20	PRAC	C	None	CW	50	Y	PRAC	50	
Advanced Photography Practice: Portfolio for Exhibition	PTO6001	New	6	20	PRAC	C	None	CW	100	Y			
Professional Practice and Self-Promotion	AAD6002	New	6	20	STAN	C	None	CW	75	Y	PRA	25	
Major Project	AAD6001	New	6	40	PROJ	C	None	PROJ	100	Y			

Type = DISS (Dissertation); FLDW (Fieldwork), INDS (Independent study); OTHR (Other); PLAC (Placement); PRAC (Practical); PROJ (Project); STAN (Standard); WBL (work-based learning)
Assessment = EX (Written Exam); CW (Coursework); PRA (Practical)

Programme specification: BA (Hons) Photography
Date: 5 June 2012

University of Bolton's Key Core Curriculum Requirements

Module Title	Module Code	C/O/E	Employability											Bolton Values		
			PDP	Communication	Team work	Organisation & Planning	Numeracy	Problem solving	Flexibility & adaptability	Action planning	Self awareness	Initiative	Personal impact & confidence	Inter-nationalisation	Environmental sustainability	Social, public and ethical responsibility
Scholarship	AAD4000	C		DTA		DT		DT	DT			D		DT	DT	DT
Production Skills	AAD4005	C		DA	DA	D A	T	DA	D A		D	DA	DA	D	D	DA
Photographic Techniques (Digital)	PTO4020	C	D	DT	D	DT	D	DT	D	DT	D	D	D	D	D	DTA
Visual Literacy	AAD4002	C	D	DTA	D T	D T	D	D T	DT	D T	D	D	D	D	DTA	DTA
Applied Creativity	AAD4004	C		D		D		D		D	D	D		DT	DT	DTA
Photographic Techniques (Wet)	PTO4021	C	D	DT	D	DT	D	DT	D	D	D	D	D	D	DTA	DTA
Employability and Enterprise	AAD5000	C	DTA	DTA	D	DTA	D	DT	DT	DT	DTA	DTA	DTA	DT	DT	DTA
Studio: Techniques into Practice	PTO5020	C	D	D	D	DTA	DT	DT	D	DTA	D	D	D	DT	DTA	DTA
Location: Techniques into Practice	PTO5021	C	D	D	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DT	DTA	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT
Past Present and Futures: Theory in Context	AAD5001	C		DTA		DT		DT	DT		D	D		DT	D	DTA
Applied Techniques into Practice	PTO5022	C	D	D	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DT	DTA	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT
Photography Theory into Practice	PTO5023	C	D	D T	D	DTA	DTA	DTA	DT	DTA	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT
Research	AAD6000	C		DTA		DT		DT	DT		D	D		DT	D	DTA
Advanced Photography Practice: Research, Presentation and Exhibition	PTO6000	C	DTA	DTA	DTA	DTA	D	DT	DT	DT	D	D	D	DT	DTA	DTA
Advanced Photography Practice: Portfolio for Exhibition	PTO6001	C	D	D		DTA	D	DTA	D	DTA	D	DTA	DTA	D	DT	D
Professional Practice and Self-Promotion	AAD6002	C	DTA	DTA	D	DTA	D	DTA		DTA	DTA	DTA	D	D	DTA	DTA
Major Project	AAD6001	C	D	A		DTA		D	D	DTA	D	DA	D	DA	DA	DA

Developed = D, Taught = T, Assessed = A

Programme specification: BA (Hons) Photography
Date: 5 June 2012